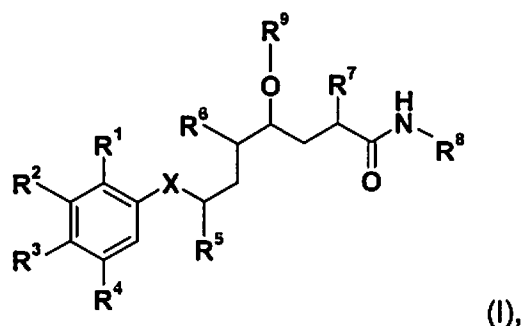


## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

## Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A compound of formula (I)



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein

**R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>**, independently of one another, are hydrogen; halogen; hydroxyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; or is

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl that is substituted by: halogen, cyano, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-oxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy that is substituted by halogen or by hydroxyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkenyloxy, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylthio, S-oxidized C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylthio, amino, N-mono-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylamino, N,N-di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylamino, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-amino, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanesulfonyl-amino, amino that is N,N-disubstituted by C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by unsubstituted or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl- or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-aza-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by oxa-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene or by S-oxidized thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, free or esterified carboxy selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-carbonyl, aryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-carbonyl and heteroaryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-carbonyl or amidated carboxy selected from the group consisting of aminocarbonyl, N-mono-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, N,N-di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-aminocarbonyl, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-aminocarbonyl, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanesulfonyl-aminocarbonyl and aminocarbonyl that is N,N-disubstituted by C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by unsubstituted or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl- or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-aza-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by oxa-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene or by S-oxidized thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, hydrogenated heteroaryl or by oxo; or is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkenyl; or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy; or is

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy that is substituted by: halogen, cyano, hydroxyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-oxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy that is substituted by halogen or by hydroxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkenyloxy, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylthio, S-oxidized C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylthio, amino, N-mono-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylamino, N,N-di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylamino, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-amino, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanesulfonyl-amino, amino that is N,N-disubstituted by C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by unsubstituted or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl- or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-aza-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by oxa-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene or by S-oxidized thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, free or esterified carboxy selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-carbonyl, aryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-carbonyl and heteroaryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-carbonyl or amidated carboxy selected from the group consisting of aminocarbonyl, N-mono-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, N,N-di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-aminocarbonyl, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-aminocarbonyl, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanesulfonyl-aminocarbonyl and aminocarbonyl that is N,N-disubstituted by C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by unsubstituted or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl- or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-aza-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by oxa-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene or by S-oxidized thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, or by hydrogenated heteroaryl; or is

C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkenyloxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkenyloxy; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkoxy; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl; aryl; heteroaryl; or hydrogenated heteroaryl; or

**R<sup>3</sup> together with R<sub>4</sub> form C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylenedioxy or a fused-on benzo or cyclohexeno ring;**

**X is methylene; hydroxymethylene; O; NH; S; SO; or SO<sub>2</sub>;**

**R<sup>5</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkenyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; heteroaryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl or heteroaryl;**

**R<sup>6</sup> is amino; N-mono-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-amino; N,N-di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-amino; N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-amine; N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanesulfonyl or represents a group of the formula -NR<sup>10</sup>COCHR<sup>11</sup>NR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup>, the latter may be present either in the (D)-, (L)- or racemic (D, L)-configuration; but preferably in the L form;**

**R<sup>7</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkenyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; heteroaryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl or heteroaryl;**

**R<sup>8</sup> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; or is**

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl that is substituted by: halogen, cyano, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-oxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy that is substituted by halogen or by hydroxyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkenyloxy, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylthio, S-oxidized C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylthio, amino, N-mono-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylamino, N,N-di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylamino, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-amino, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanesulfonyl-amino, amino that is N,N-disubstituted by C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by unsubstituted or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl- or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-aza-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by oxa-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene or by S-oxidized thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, free or esterified carboxy selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-carbonyl, aryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-carbonyl and

heteroaryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-carbonyl or amidated carboxy selected from the group consisting of aminocarbonyl, N-mono-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, N,N-di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-aminocarbonyl, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-aminocarbonyl, N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanesulfonyl-aminocarbonyl and aminocarbonyl that is N,N-disubstituted by C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by unsubstituted or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl- or N'-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-aza-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by oxa-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene, by thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene or by S-oxidized thia-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene,  
or is

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, hydrogenated heteroaryl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl; aryl; heteroaryl or hydrogenated heteroaryl;

R<sup>9</sup> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanesulfonyl or a group of the formula – COCHR<sup>14</sup>NR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup> ~~which may be present either in the (D)-, (L)- or racemic (D, L)-configuration, but preferably in the L form;~~ or a group of the formula –CH<sub>2</sub>O-COR<sup>15</sup>;

R<sup>10</sup> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; heteroaryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl or heteroaryl;

R<sup>11</sup> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; heteroaryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl or heteroaryl;

R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup>, independently of another, are hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl;

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl that is substituted by: halogen, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylthio, by S-oxidized C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylthio, by aminocarbonyl, by N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl-aminocarbonyl, by N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl-aminocarbonyl; by N,N-di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, or by aminocarbonyl that is disubstituted by C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkylene; or are

C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl; aryl or heteroaryl;

R<sup>14</sup> is hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; heteroaryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl or heteroaryl; R<sup>15</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl, aryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; heteroaryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; aryl or heteroaryl; and

wherein aryl is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl or naphthyl, which are unsubstituted or mono-, di- or tri-substituted, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl, halogen and trifluoromethyl;

wherein heteroaryl is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or tri-substituted, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl, halogen and trifluoromethyl; and is selected from the group consisting of optionally benzo-fused 5-membered aza-, diaza-, triaza-, oxa-diaza- or tetraaza-aryl radical and a 6-membered aza- or diaza-aryl radical, monoaza-, diaza-, triaza-, tetraaza-, monooxa- or monothia-cyclic aryl radicals; and

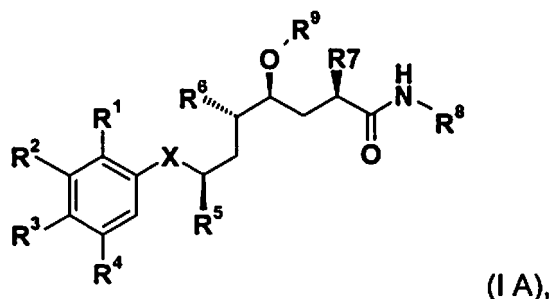
wherein hydrogenated heteroaryl is unsubstituted or mono-, di- or tri-substituted, by a substituent selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy, hydroxy,

cyano, nitro, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl, halogen and trifluoromethyl; and is selected from the group consisting of optionally benzo-fused 5-membered partially or fully hydrogenated aza-, diaza-, triaza-, oxadiaz- or tetraaza-aryl radical and 6-membered aza- or diaza-aryl radical.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 1 of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy; R<sup>2</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy; R<sup>3</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy; R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkoxy; R<sup>5</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; R<sup>6</sup> is amino; R<sup>7</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; R<sup>8</sup> is amino-carbonyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl; R<sup>9</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkanoyl, a group of the formula -COCHR<sup>14</sup>NR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup> which may be present either in the (D)-, (L)- or racemic (D, L)-configuration[[,]] but preferably in the L-form; or a group of the formula -CH<sub>2</sub>O-COR<sup>15</sup>; and R<sup>14</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl or phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup>, independently of one another, are hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl or phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; and R<sup>15</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl or phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; and X is methylene.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A compound according to claim 1 of formula (I A)

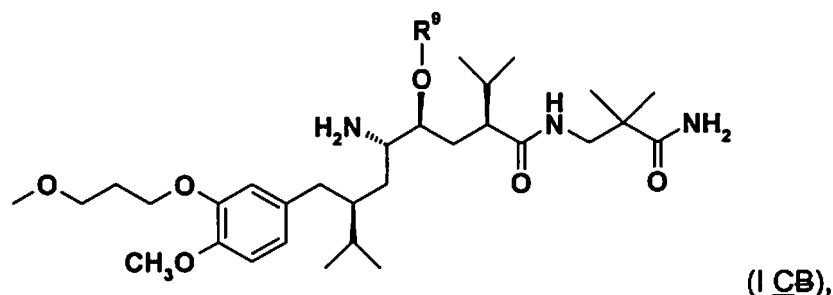


wherein the variables R<sup>1</sup> to R<sup>15</sup> and X have all meanings as defined in claim 1; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 4 (previously presented): A compound according to claim 1 of formula (I A) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are hydrogen; R<sup>2</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxyl- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, such as 3-methoxy-propyloxy; R<sup>3</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, such as methoxy; R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>7</sup>, independently of one another, are C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl, such as isopropyl; R<sup>6</sup> is amino; R<sup>8</sup> is aminocarbonyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, such as 2-amino-2,2-dimethylethyl; R<sup>9</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkanoyl or a group of the formula -COCHR<sup>14</sup>NR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup> wherein R<sup>14</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, such as isopropyl or isobutyl, or phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkyl, such as benzyl, R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> are hydrogen and X is methylene.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A compound according to claim 4 of formula (I CB) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein  $R^9$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkanoyl or a group of the formula  $-COCHR^{14}NH_2$  wherein  $R^{14}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl[,.] such as isopropyl or isobutyl, or phenyl- $C_1$ - $C_2$ -alkyl[,.] such as benzyl.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A compound according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof selected from the group consisting of

acetic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

butyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

isobutyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;M

2,2-dimethyl-propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

(S)-2-amino-3-methyl-butyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl Ester;

(S)-2-amino-4-methyl-pentanoic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester; and

(S)-2-amino-3-phenyl-propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester.

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (withdrawn-currently amended): A method for the treatment of or prevention of or delay of progression to overt hypertension, congestive heart failure, cardiac hypertrophy, cardiac fibrosis, cardiomyopathy, postinfarction, (acute and chronic) renal failure, complications resulting from diabetes, such as nephropathy, vasculopathy and neuropathy, diseases of the coronary vessels, restenosis following angioplasty, raised intra-ocular pressure, glaucoma, abnormal vascular growth, hyperaldosteronism, anxiety states and cognitive disorders comprising administering a ~~therapeutically~~ therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1.

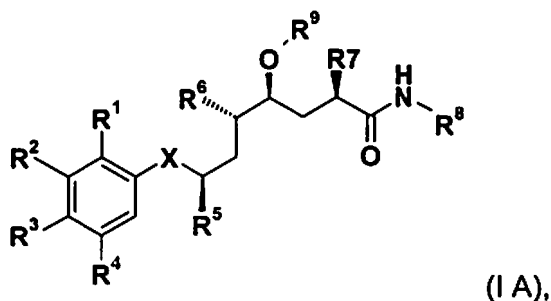
Claim 9 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 10 (original): A composition according to claim 9 further comprising at least one therapeutic agent selected from the group consisting of

- (i) an AT<sub>1</sub>-receptor antagonist or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
- (ii) an angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
- (iii) a beta blocker or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
- (iv) a calcium channel blocker or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
- (v) an aldosterone synthase inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
- (vi) an aldosterone receptor antagonist or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
- (vii) a dual angiotensin converting enzyme/neutral endopeptidase (ACE/NEP) inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
- (viii) an endothelin receptor antagonist or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
- (ix) a diuretic or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
- (x) a neutral endopeptidase (NEP) inhibitor or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
- (xi) an inhibitors of the Na-K-ATPase membrane pump or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

- (xii) an antidiabetic agent or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
- (xiii) a hypolipidemic agent or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and
- (xiv) an anti-obesity agent or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A compound according to claim 2 of formula (I A)



wherein the variables  $R^1$  to  $R^{15}$  and  $X$  have all meanings as defined in claim[[2]] 2; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A compound according to claim 2 of formula (I A) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

$R^1$  and  $R^4$  are hydrogen;  $R^2$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxyl-  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, such as 3-methoxy-propyloxy;  $R^3$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, such as methoxy;  $R^5$  and  $R^7$ , independently of one another, are  $C_1$ - $C_7$ -alkyl, such as isopropyl;  $R^6$  is amino;  $R^8$  is aminocarbonyl- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, such as 2-amino-2,2-dimethylethyl;  $R^9$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkanoyl or a group of the formula  $-\text{COCHR}^{14}\text{NR}^{12}\text{R}^{13}$  wherein  $R^{14}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl[[.]] such as isopropyl or isobutyl[[.]] or phenyl- $C_1$ - $C_2$ -alkyl[[.]] such as benzyl,  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  are hydrogen and  $X$  is methylene.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A compound according to claim 3 of formula (I A) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

**R<sup>1</sup>** and **R<sup>4</sup>** are hydrogen; **R<sup>2</sup>** is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxyl- C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, such as 3-methoxy-propyloxy; **R<sup>3</sup>** is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, such as methoxy; **R<sup>5</sup>** and **R<sup>7</sup>**, independently of one another, are C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-alkyl, such as isopropyl; **R<sup>6</sup>** is amino; **R<sup>8</sup>** is aminocarbonyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, such as 2-amino-2,2-dimethylethyl; **R<sup>9</sup>** is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkanoyl or a group of the formula –COCHR<sup>14</sup>NR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup> wherein **R<sup>14</sup>** is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl[[.]] such as isopropyl or isobutyl, or phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-alkyl[[.]] such as benzyl, **R<sup>12</sup>** and **R<sup>13</sup>** are hydrogen and **X** is methylene.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A compound according to claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof selected from the group consisting of

acetic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

butyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

isobutyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;M

2,2-dimethyl-propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

(S)-2-amino-3-methyl-butyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl Ester;

(S)-2-amino-4-methyl-pentanoic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester; and

(S)-2-amino-3-phenyl-propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester.



Claim 15 (currently amended): A compound according to claim 3 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof selected from the group consisting of

acetic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

butyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

isobutyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;M

2,2-dimethyl-propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

(S)-2-amino-3-methyl-butyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl Ester;

(S)-2-amino-4-methyl-pentanoic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester; and

(S)-2-amino-3-phenyl-propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A compound according to claim 4 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof selected from the group consisting of

acetic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

butyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

isobutyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;M

2,2-dimethyl-propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

(S)-2-amino-3-methyl-butyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl Ester;

(S)-2-amino-4-methyl-pentanoic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester; and

(S)-2-amino-3-phenyl-propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A compound according to claim 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof selected from the group consisting of

acetic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

butyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

isobutyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;M

2,2-dimethyl-propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester;

(S)-2-amino-3-methyl-butyric acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl Ester;

(S)-2-amino-4-methyl-pentanoic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester; and

(S)-2-amino-3-phenyl-propionic acid (1S,2S,4S)-2-amino-1-[(S)-2-(2-carbamoyl-2-methyl-propylcarbamoyl)-3-methyl-butyl]-4-[4-methoxy-3-(3-methoxy-propoxy)-benzyl]-5-methyl-hexyl ester.